

The New World of Brazil

A Graphic Description of The Fourth Largest Country On Earth

A Land of Mighty Plateaus Fit for White Men—Big Rivers and Their Waterpowers—The Amazon and Its 30,000 Miles of Navigation—5,000,000 Acres of Coffee and 2,000,000 Square Miles of Timber—Mountains of Iron for Our Steel Trust—The Youngest Republic—The States of Brazil and Their Characteristics—Over One Billion Dollars of Foreign Capital Already Invested.

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RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil.

The new world of Brazil!

I write of one of the mightiest countries on earth and of one of the least known. Brazil has an individuality of its own and it is a world in extent. It is so large and so rich that it could feed the whole human race and have exports enough left to load an aerial fleet for the planet of Mars. If Brazil were as thickly populated as Italy, she would have more people than the continent of Asia. If she had as many people as France her inhabitants would be one-third more than those of all Europe, and if as many as Germany the number would be equal to all the people of our hemisphere and Europe, Africa and Australia, leaving 200,000,000 to spare. If she were as well settled as Belgium at the time the war began, her population would be more than 2,000,000,000, or more than all the people on earth, with enough added to equal every man, woman and child now on the continent of Europe.

This gives you some idea of Brazil's possibilities.

Now look at the size of the country compared with that of certain lands we know well. I might give it in figures, but figures slide off the back of the intellect, as water slides off the traditional duck. In actual square miles the number is more than 3,290,000. This means that Brazil is greater than the United States, not including Alaska. It is fifteen times as big as Germany or France, thirteen times the size of Italy and about 290 times as big as Belgium. It has more land than all Australia and Oceania. It is eight times as large as Argentina and more than four times as big as Russia in Europe. Brazil touches every country in South America except Chile. It has almost half of all the land on the continent, and far more than half of the lands fitted for population. The country is so wide from east to west that if it were laid on the United States it would extend from New York to far beyond Denver, and its Atlantic coast line would equal the distance between Boston and San Francisco, with 500 miles and more added thereto. It is longer from north to south than from Pittsburgh to Los Angeles, and its climates include those of the tropical, semi-tropical and temperate zones.

The common idea of Brazil comes from the Amazon valley. Many look upon it as a low plain, hot and unhealthy. The truth is the most of the country is made up of highlands, and more than half of it is an elevated plateau the mean altitude of which is just about that of our Appalachian mountains. The plateau is two or three thousand feet above the sea, with peaks here and there that run up to seven thousand feet, and one that reaches nine thousand, or higher than any peak on the eastern side of our country. Brazil has four different ranges of mountains. There are some at the north between the Amazon and the Orinoco. There are the Andes at the west, and also the several ranges that run through the eastern part of the country. The latter come close to the sea and you jump from the tropical lowlands to a climate that is fitted for white men. There are vast tracts which are similar to California or our southern states. Take the port of Santos, which until the new sanitary work was inaugurated was so unhealthy that it became known as the white man's grave. Santos lies on the sea in a land of bananas, pineapples and sugar plantations. You can take a train there, and in two hours be on the plateau of San Paulo, whose climate is as fine as that of Los Angeles.

Brazil is one of the best watered lands under the sky. It has small regions of drought, but there are no great deserts like our highlands of the west, the Sahara and Kalahari in Africa, or like Gobi, Arabia, and the plateau of Iran. The plateau of Brazil is cut by great river systems, and as to the Amazon its waters carry much of the floods that fall from the heavens. Two-thirds of the main stream of the Amazon runs through Brazil, and the country has other mighty streams, the names of which we hardly know. The waterways of the Amazon alone are long enough if stretched end to end to reach around the world, and its navigable length, if laid upon the United States, would form a mighty canal

from Cape Cod to the Golden Gate. The Amazon has 1,100 tributaries in addition to the River of Doubt, which Theodore Roosevelt has exposed to the world. The main stream and the tributaries have over thirty thousand miles of navigable waterways. If you could confine them in one canal starting at San Francisco they would go clear around the world and leave enough over to reach on to China.

But the Amazon is only one of the rivers. Brazil has a score of others outside the Amazon basin, the length of which added together would give a total waterway amounting to 50,000 miles. It has some rivers a thousand miles long, the names of which are not known to the man on the street. The Parnahyba is longer than from New York to Chicago, and the Araguay would reach from Chicago to New Orleans. The Parana, which is a part of the Brazilian system, is as long as from Boston to Salt Lake, and the Rio Sao Francisco has a length of 1,820 miles, and you may ride upon it in steamships for days. Some of these rivers have mighty waterfalls. The Sao Francisco has one drop of 268 feet, or 100 feet more than that of Niagara. The Iguazu Falls are said to surpass those of Zambesi in South Africa, and in the state of Sao Paulo alone there are 2,000,000 horsepower in the yet undeveloped cascades. The length of the Iguazu is 792 miles, the Itapicuru flows 990 miles, the Juguinoh measures 1,670 miles. The Doce, or Sweet river, if it could be lifted to our country would reach from Washington to Cleveland.

This world of Brazil is one of enormous resources, and its crops include almost every product that grows upon God's green earth. The highlands are temperate, and they will raise wheat and corn. The lowlands are tropical and fitted for sugar and tobacco, while between them we have the vast coffee fields that tickle the stomach and stiffen the backbone of the human race every morning. The coffee plantations cover more than 5,000,000 acres. The cattle number something like 30,000,000, and the possibilities in cotton, cacao, sugar and tobacco are enormous. The country is growing in manufactures. The capital already invested in industrials is something like a quarter of a billion dollars, and of this the cotton factories alone have a capital of \$90,000,000 and more. There are 194 cotton mills now working.

Many of the Brazilian industries are operated with foreign money, and the country is open to Americans as never before. The amount of foreign capital already invested is more than eleven hundred million dollars, and to this must be added a half billion dollars in Brazilian stocks and bonds. The amount invested in railroads alone is estimated at over \$225,000,000, and more roads are being surveyed and some are under construction. At present the state of Rio de Janeiro and parts of Sao Paulo and Minas Geraes only are well served by rail, and tens of thousands of miles of new tracks will be required to open the country.

In the future I shall write as to the timber lands and mineral resources of Brazil. The country has some of the greatest forests yet unexploited. The woods of the Amazon alone cover 2,000,000 square miles, a territory as great as two-thirds of the United States proper. There are pine forests in southern Brazil, and the highlands of Matto Grosso have wood lands intermixed with their pastures.

The mineral regions of the country are practically unprospected. The republic contains everything from gold and diamonds to iron and graphite. Almost 2,000,000 pounds of gold have been taken out of the mines and gold is known to exist in nearly every one of the states. There is a town in Matto Grosso where the boys look for gold in the gutters after the rains, and on the highlands of Minas Geraes, the gold mines are now playing well. Brazil has enormous deposits of iron, an option on some of which is now held by the millionaires of the steel trust. The Southern Star, one of the fine diamonds discovered, weighed 254 carats. It is now the property of an Indian prince.

Brazil is the baby among the democratic governments of the world. It became a republic only thirty-five years ago, at about the time that Garfield was elected President of the United States. Its constitution was made as late as 1891. Shortly after the organization of the government financial experiments were undertaken, which caused the people to speculate. The result was a boom which collapsed in 1892, halting all public works and setting the country back for about ten years. After that came a civil war. The navy revolted and Rio de Janeiro was in a state of siege for six months. The foreign powers intervened, and finally in

1894 President Moraes, the first civil ruler, took his seat.

Since then Brazil has been moving straight onward. It has been growing industrially and politically, and it is now on a firm financial and industrial basis. The country has a constitution like ours. The government has three branches. First is the legislative branch, consisting of a chamber of deputies and a senate, corresponding to our Congress. Then comes the executive, whose powers are exercised by the president of the republic. And third is the judicial branch, constituted by the supreme court.

The Republic of Brazil consists of twenty states and one territory. Some of these states are enormous, others compare in size with the smaller states of the Union, although none is as small as Maryland. Amazonas, which includes the western half of the Amazon basin, is bounded on the north by British Guiana, Venezuela and Colombia. On the east are Colombia, Ecuador and Peru. Its southern boundary touches Bolivia.

This state is one-fifth as large as the whole United States, including Alaska. It would make eight states as big as Kansas or sixteen the size of Kentucky. Nevertheless, it does not begin until hundreds of miles east of the Atlantic, and it has thousands of miles of river navigation. You can cross Amazonas on steamers from east to west and the largest ocean vessels can come from the Atlantic to its capital, Manaus, which is more than a thousand miles from the mouth of the Amazon. Manaus has 50,000 population. It has telephones, electric lights, electric street cars and a beautiful theater. It is a great rubber port. Amazonas has some of the finest rubber forests on earth. Much of the country is low and covered with woods. It has also highlands. It has a network of rivers, many of which carry more or less gold.

The big state east of Amazonas is Para. This state is ten times the size of Pennsylvania and about eleven times as big as Ohio, Virginia and Kentucky. It comprises the eastern part of the Amazon basin, and it has one city, named Belem, which has over 100,000 inhabitants. Belem has been one of the death spots of the world. It has been noted for its yellow fever and other diseases, but they are now inaugurating sanitary regulations like those that cleaned up Panama and it will eventually be as safe as any tropical city. The total population of the state of Para is not half that of Greater Boston, while you could pull all the people who live in Amazonas into Buffalo and still have room for something like 100,000 more.

Just south of these two states and bordered on the west by Bolivia and Paraguay is Matto Grosso, a great undeveloped region which is bound to boom in the near future. This state is a vast plateau nine times as large as either Illinois or Wisconsin and more than six times as big as either Minnesota or Kansas. It is in the tropics, but it is so high that it is healthy and parts of it are already feeding millions of cattle. This country so far is inaccessible by railroads. Its capital, Cuyaba, has to be reached from Rio de Janeiro by traveling several thousand miles. The steamers go down to the mouth of the Rio de la Plata and thence up the Parana and Paraguay to Asuncion. From there the trip is by smaller steamers up the Paraguay to Cuyaba. When the railroad is completed Cuyaba will be reached from the Atlantic as easily as Cleveland is reached from New York. The distances are the same. Then the trains will bring the Matto Grosso cattle to the packing houses that are now being erected for the purpose at Sao Paulo.

The state of Matto Grosso contains more than half a million square miles. Americans who have frequently traveled over it locating the railroad routes tell me the land is excellent. The population of Matto Grosso is now only two-tenths of one person to the square mile. You could drop its population into New York, Chicago or Philadelphia and neither city would notice the difference.

Just east of this state is Goyaz, where the future capital of the country is to be located, plans having already been made to that end. Goyaz is the center of Brazil. The state is bigger than Texas, and its population is just about one-tenth the size of the latter. A great part of the country is high and the land is rough. It is rich in minerals and is said to have iron by the hundreds of millions of tons. It also yields diamonds.

One of the most interesting states of Brazil is Minas Geraes, which is more than four times as big as New York. It lies east of Goyaz. It is bounded on the north by Bahia and on the south by Sao Paulo, while separating it from the Atlantic on the east are the small states of Rio de Janeiro and Espirito Santo and a bit of Bahia. This state is high and healthy and has one of the best agricultural and pastoral districts of the republic. It supplies the butter and cheese of the capital and quantities of eggs, poultry and bacon as well. It exports 300,000 head of cattle a year and a great number of pigs.

The state is noted industrially, its manufacturing establishments turning out a product of something like \$250,000,000 a year, and its factories being numbered by hundreds. It is rich in

mines. It has vast iron deposits, for which American capitalists are now negotiating.

The state is the most thickly populated of the republic. It has four or five million inhabitants, but no towns of more than forty thousand and only two of over thirty-five thousand.

Rio de Janeiro is one of the small states. It is a little bigger than West Virginia and almost as mountainous. It has over two million people, of whom half, or more than one million, live in the capital, the city of Rio de Janeiro. This state is noted for its factories, leading the republic in that respect. It is the chief state in commerce and is agriculturally rich.

Espirito Santos at the north has only 17,000 square miles, being next to the smallest of all the Brazilian states. Its population is 400,000.

The chief coffee states of Brazil are Sao Paulo, Minas Geraes and Rio de Janeiro, with Sao Paulo far in the lead. (Sao Paulo is more than twice as large as Illinois and its soil is said to be equally good). It is the best farming state. It produces three-fourths of all the coffee used by the world, and in addition almost a million bales of cotton, hundreds of thousands of sacks of sugar and some millions of pounds of tobacco.

The whole state has just about as many people as Chicago, and of these perhaps one-fourth, a little more than one-half million, live in the city of Sao Paulo. The state has many mill-lanes, and it is altogether about the most progressive state in Brazil.

South of Sao Paulo are three states of considerable size, all of them high, healthy and fitted for the homes of white people. This includes what is known as West Deutschland or German Brazil, some parts of the country being largely settled by Germans and the chief farms and industries belonging to them. These states are known as Parana, Santa Catharina and Rio Grande do Sul. They border on Uruguay and Paraguay and have vast pastures and wheat lands. They are being largely developed by the Brazil Railway Company which is pushed by Americans.

In addition to the states I have named there are nine others situated in the great cotton, tobacco and sugar belt of northeastern Brazil. Of these the most important is Bahia. Bahia is about as big as Massachusetts and California combined. It has 166,000 square miles and its population is two and one-half millions. The capital is the port of Bahia which was once the capital of Brazil and which now has about 300,000 population. Bahia is noted for its tobacco. It raises about 50,000,000 pounds a year and turns out more than 60,000,000 cigars. The state is said to be rich in minerals and agriculturally it is only partially developed.

North of Bahia is Pernambuco, a state noted for its cotton; and still further north is Ceara, as big as Ohio, which produces cotton, cacao and coffee.

The state of Parahyba is about as big as South Carolina. It yields cotton and sugar. Alagoas is another little cotton state, and so is Rio Grande do Norte.

Maranhao, which is next to Para, is bigger than any state of the Union outside Texas, and it has only one railroad, about fifty miles long. Its land is fitted for cotton. The same is true of Piahy, another large state which adjoins it on the east. All of these states are now raising more or less tobacco, cotton, sugar and cacao. Much of their soil is rich and it may be that they will some day compete with the cotton lands of the Union.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

MISSIONARY REUNION HELD AT HENDERSON

Wilmington, Sept. 4.—The visiting delegates to the annual convention of the Women's Home and Foreign Missionary Society of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of North Carolina in session at St. Paul's Lutheran Church were the guests of the local churches on an enjoyable outing to Wrightsville Beach this afternoon. Only one session was held today, this being devoted to unfinished business, a mission study hour which was conducted by Rev. J. C. Seegers, D.D., professor in the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Columbia, S. C. Mrs. C. P. MacLoughlin, of Concord, conducted a memorial service.

There will be three sessions tomorrow. Rev. C. P. MacLoughlin, D.D., of Concord, will preach at the morning service and Rev. J. C. Seegers, D.D., will preach at the night service which will close the convention. There will be a service for young people in the afternoon.

There were so many applicants for the examinations today for clerk and carrier in the Wilmington postoffice that they had to be divided into three groups and other examinations will be held on September 7 and 8.

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